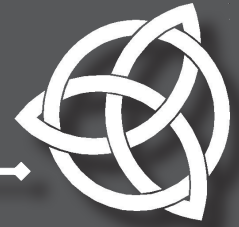




# TRI GOD



A PINECREST LIFEGROUP STUDY RESOURCE

**Sermon Title:** *Mankind Meets the Father*

**Speaker:** Jeff Kinley

**Main Passage:** Genesis 2-3

**Date:** April 18, 2010

## *Getting Started*

- » Share one of your favorite memories from childhood with the group. It could be anything from a special event to a family trip to anything you remember fondly.
- » How would you describe your relationship with your earthly father? What was it like when you were growing up? What's it like now? How would you like it to be?
- » When you hear God referred to as "Father" how do you respond? Is it a positive or negative image? Why do you think God refers to Himself as "Father"?

## *The Study*

### **A Perfect World**

- » What were some of the things God provided for the first humans?
- » What do you suppose was present in their relationship? What was missing?
- » Describe (without using the word 'perfect') what their relationship with the Father was like.

### **The Big "Lie-Bowski"**

- » What angle did the Serpent use to get to Eve? What was his method?
- » What was he saying about God with his question? How do you think he still uses this method today?
- » Do you think it's just as effective? Why or why not? Give an example of how you've fallen for that lie.

### **"Ringo"**

- » Do you agree with the statement: "Sin is fun"? Explain your answer.
- » What were the consequences of sin for Adam and Eve? How similar are those consequences today? Are they the same? Worse?

### **The Cover-Up**

- » Adam and Eve used fig leaves to cover their nakedness. Their feelings of incompleteness and inadequacy motivated them to run and hide from God. How do we "cover up" today? What are our "fig leaves"? How do we hide, or attempt to hide from God, substituting a false identity because of our guilt, shame and incompleteness?

### **God's Ultimate Question to His Creation**

- » When God asked them, "Where are you?", what was He really saying to them?
- » How does God "find" us today?
- » How do we allow Him to remove our fig leaves and cover us with His provision, both as unbelievers and believers?

## Application

- » God wants us to be “found” in Him. To find our ultimate significance and worth and identity in a relationship with Him. He is the Father who fulfills us, makes us whole and complete. And that's what we're all searching for. Discuss as a group how your relationship with the Father is right now. Are you getting your significance and worth from a relationship with Him or from something else?
- » If you identified the Father as your “Trinity Blindspot” last week, how has this week's message (and/or your own study and prayer this past week) helped you build your relationship with the Father? Share your experience with the group and anyway that they can help you continue in this part of your journey.
- » Discuss as a group how your relationship with your earthly father has either helped or hindered your relationship with your Heavenly Father. Do you see God the Father as the perfect Dad or are you projecting human imperfections on Him?
- » Are there any unanswered questions, thoughts, or ideas we haven't discussed yet? Take the chance and open up with the group...don't be shy!
- » Spend some time this week in prayer with your Heavenly Father. Spend time with Him. Call Him Daddy. Call Him Father. Work on your relationship with Him. Focus your spiritual energy on finding your significance and worth from Him.
- » If you struggle with your relationship with the Father, think about journaling or writing a letter to Him. Tell Him why you don't feel close to Him. Tell Him what's bothering you. Be honest. Be real.
- » Next week we focus on the role of the Son in our spiritual lives. Consider doing some of your own personal Bible research and study on Jesus. Do you see Jesus anywhere in the Old Testament?

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## Caring Community

- » **SHARE** with the group how God has been speaking into your life or challenging you this past week (this may be as a result of the sermon or something in your personal journey). Is there anything from this week's LifeGroup discussion you need to work on?
- » Are there any **NEEDS** you have coming up in your life that the group can help you with (this may include spiritual needs, life needs, pretty much anything...)
- » **PRAY** for one another. Share your requests and praises with one another. Write them down here. If you commit to praying, please be sure you do it...

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